In view of the comments of CAG contained in Report No. 7 of 1999 (Defence Services) the case stands referred to CBI on 20.4.2000 for independent investigation.

Delivery of shells from Russia

5491. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO:
DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to refer to reply to Unstarred Question 621 given in Rajya Sabha on 1st March, 2000 and state:

(a) by when the shells are likely to be delivered; and

(b) what are the performance results of the testives made of the shells?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) The complete consignment of shells has been delivered in April, 2000.

(b) The procurement was made after successful trial evaluation of shells in desert and mountainous terrain at an altitude of 4000 meters.

Appointments in Army Base Workshop

†5492. SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK:
PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of appointments have been made in Army Base Workshop during the last month and a lot of irregularities have been committed therein;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a number of such persons have also been appointed through these irregularities who are directly or indirectly related with ISI;

(c) whether Government have conducted any investigation in the matter and action taken thereon;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, as to why Government are taking indifferent attitude towards such a sensitive matter?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Recruitments have taken place in February, 2000, at Army Base Workshop, Delhi Cantonment. A court case alleging malpractice in the recruitment, has been filed by some candidates.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.